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NOTES.

Of the first volume of "American History told by Contemporaries," edited by Albert Bushnell Hart, (New York: the Macmillan Co.), a series that is planned to contain four, one may say that the conception was as uniquely genial as the execution is generously judicial. The period covered is that of Colonization from 1492 to 1689. An introduction of twenty-seven pages on the sources of American history and on how to use them is followed by accurate reprints in whole or in part of 156 documents, either in their own English or in careful translations. The book does even more than the title promises for it begins not with Columbus but with Hauk Erlendsson. Then Columbus tells of the great discovery and in the next year we find Pope Alexander dividing the new world with a bull. Then we hear Columbus eleven years later tell of the thirst for gold. And throughout the whole 590 pages the men of old time speak for themselves to us and tell us episodes in their lives or give us pictures of manners as they appeared to the actors themselves. To the part devoted to Norse and Spanish Discoveries succeed others on the English and the French and Dutch. Then we come to papers less interesting perhaps to the boy in search of thrilling adventure but even more full of suggestion and meaning to the riper mind. We are given a section on the Reasons for Colonization and on its Regulation and on the Emigrants themselves; then each set of colonies is taken in turn, the Southern settlements, New England by states and in general, and then the "Middle Colonies." If there is a boy or girl, man or woman, in the United States whom this series does not interest the fault they may be sure is with them and the education they have received. A work such as this is and such as this promises to be is a noteworthy and a praiseworthy contribu-

tion to the building up among us of a more reasonable patriotism and nobler ideals of citizenship. It is also a worthy monument of American scholarship and broad spirited efforts in the words of its own preface "to make broad the highways for those who would visit their forefathers."

B. W. W.

An interesting treatment, popular in style yet scholarly in substance, of a subject of perennial interest will be found in the "Communion of Saints," by the Reverend Wyllys Rede, with an introduction by Lord Halifax (London, Longman's) whose second edition has just appeared to testify to its continued popularity. The aim of the author has been to show in a popular way and with not infrequent appeals to the christian sympathies and emotions that there is a true spiritual communion between Christ and all the members of his Church living and departed as well as between the individual members of the Church militant and the Church expectant. In his view the fellowship of christians on earth typifies a more developed spiritual fellowship in paradise which he regards as a more or less purgatorial preparation for the beatific vision of heaven after the final judgment. From this follows naturally that the personal relations and interests of this life are to some extent continued in the next, that the expectant christians may pray for us and that we may ask God for their prayers, which since they are nearer to God are likely to be more grateful to him than our own. All this is in accord with the teachings of the early Church and with the fortieth article of the English Church, adopted in 1553 and yielded later as a sort of eirenicon to the continental protestants with the usual result of eirenica. According to the ingenious reasoning of Dr. Rede, however, the Church never intended to abandon a view so helpful to the christian life that if some future place of purgation did not exist it would be necessary to invent it. On the contrary she still teaches it by implication in the Prayer-Book. This is not the fit occasion to discuss problems of eschatol-

ogy, but if we were to join issue anywhere with Dr. Rede it would be with regard to his view that the life of the soul after death "has two divisions or states of life widely separated from each other at least as to the tenor of their existence," as Dives and Lazarus were separated. Souls do not pass from this life so classified but with every conceivable shade that separates black from white, none wholly bad, not even Dives, none wholly good, not even Lazarus or Abraham. Ultimately such a distinction may evolve itself, immediately it is hardly conceivable that the souls of the dead should recognize any such distinction of their own accord or its justice if it were imposed upon them. With this exception or rather reserve it seems to us that Dr. Rede's book meets the principal requirement of such a treatise, namely that it shall present a rational, righteous, and comfortable view of a subject on which the current protestant teaching has succeeded in out-raging at once the emotional and the rational side of human nature.

We noticed some time since the first volume of Professor Friedrich Ratzel's "History of Mankind" translated by A. J. Butler, (Macmillan). The second volume is just out, covering America and Africa. The same high standard of book-making is kept up and the volumes may be confidently recommended to all interested in the subject. The illustrations are especially good and it is a marvel that the publishers can afford to sell the book so cheaply (four dollars per volume).

Among convenient manuals for special students recently published by the Macmillan Company we note the Rev. C. R. Gillett's translation of Krüger's "History of Early Christian Literature," Pillsbury and Titchener's translation of Külpe's "Introduction to Philosophy," Herbert J. Davenport's "Outlines of Elementary Economics," and Amos Kidder Fiske's "Myths of Israel,"—the last being an interesting effort to popularize the results of modern critical scholarship.

Among T. Y. Crowell & Company's latest books we note with pleasure the first annotated edition of Browning's "Ring and the Book" from the competent hands of Charlotte Porter and Helen A. Clarke, the editors of "Poet-Lore"—a good piece of work—Mr. Nathan Haskell Dole's complete edition of Matthew Arnold's *Poetical Works*—the first edition to include "Alaric at Rome," "Cromwell" and a few other poems—a most commendable work—Dean Farrar's chatty volume of personal sketches entitled "Men I Have Known"—and last but not least, Miss Hapgood's good translation of the Baron Pierre de Coubertin's "Evolution of France under the Third Republic"—a most valuable and delightful book which we recommend cordially to all our readers. The recent publications of this firm have certainly been of excellent quality in every respect a judgment which is confirmed by a perusal of Professor Oscar Kuhns' admirable revision of Cary's translation of Dante.

An interesting book just published by the Macmillan Company is entitled "The Conception of God." It consists of an address by Professor Josiah Royce, of Harvard, followed by a criticism thereon by Professor Mezes of the University of Texas, with remarks and comments by Professors LeConte and G. H. Howison, of the University of California, and two supplementary essays by Professor Royce.

A delightful book for both the student and the general reader, is Mr. Frederic Ives Carpenter's "English Lyric Poetry," (1500-1700)—a volume in the "Warwick Library" (Scribner's). Dr. Carpenter's introduction is good and his selections are in admirable taste. He has added some new poems of interest and has retained nearly all the lyrics that Palgrave and Bullen have made favorites with us. The volume ought to make a charming gift-book.